

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **SB 2594 - HB 2633**

February 29, 2004

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Provides that notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, religious organizations may participate in state and local contracts for goods and services provided by the Departments of Health, Human Services and Children's Services on the same basis as any other non-governmental providers. A religious organization may offer services while retaining all control over the definition, development, practice, and expression of religious beliefs. Any person receiving assistance from the state who objects to the religious character of the organization would receive assistance from another provider if one were available. Programs shall be implemented consistent with First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The religious organization will retain exemption under the Civil Rights Act regarding discrimination on the basis of religion in its employment practice. Any religious organization that contracts to provide goods, services, or assistance funded under any program is subject to the same rules as other contractors to account in accordance with generally accepted auditing principles.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant**

Estimate assumes that religious organizations contracting to provide goods and services to the Departments of Children's Services, Human Services, and Health will be treated "on the same basis as any other non-governmental provider," as provided in Section 1 of the printed bill, and, like other non-governmental organizations, will be required to comply with all federal laws and regulations applicable to the receipt of federal funding. Any increase in state expenditures to monitor compliance with the requirements of this bill by religious organizations not currently contracting with these departments is estimated to be not significant.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director